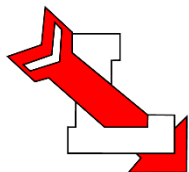


BUSHNELL ELEMENTARY

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February 1, 2025

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2023-24 educational progress for Bushnell Elementary. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The school's report contains information about student assessments, accountability, and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact Erin Walters, Bushnell Elementary Principal for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by clicking [here](#). You may also review the report by visiting the Lowell Area Schools web site at www.lowellschools.com (click on Our District, Annual Notifications) or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

Bushnell Administration

Erin Walters
Principal

Jennifer Haywood
Administrative Assistant

Kaitlyn Richardson
Administrative Assistant

For the 2024-25 school year, schools were identified based on previous years' performance using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that had at least one underperforming student subgroup in 2023-24. An additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that had a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state in 2021-22. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance was in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state, had a graduation rate at or below 67% or failed to exit ATS status in 2021-22. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Our school has not been given one of these labels.

Central Administration

Nate Fowler
Superintendent

Dustin Cichocki
Director of Human Resources

Dan VanderMeulen
Director of Curriculum

Sonia Hodge
Chief Financial Officer

Liz McCall
Director of Special Education

Our key initiatives revolve around our mission of high-quality learning for every student in every classroom, every day with primary interventions focusing on the bottom 30% of our students in regard to achievement, as well as our students with disabilities. These students are identified as having achievement gaps, their specific performance is analyzed, and an individual plan is established to assist them in achieving effective growth expectancies and proficiency norms.

Process for Assigning Pupils to the School

Lowell Area Schools assign pupils to specific school buildings based on their primary address. Parents may also use the "Internal Schools of Choice Program" to attend any of the elementary schools. Approval for this program is based on student numbers at each building's grade level.

Status of the 3-5 Year Continuous Improvement Plan

Each building within the District works on goals for continuous improvement stemming from a variety of data sources including but not limited to M-STEP, SAT, PSAT 10, PSAT 8/9, NWEA MAP, classroom assessments, perception surveys, and demographic data. The District School Improvement Plan details action steps that will be implemented during the next 3-5 years. Our focus is on providing high-quality learning for every student, in every classroom, every day. Progress monitoring of student learning on a frequent and continual basis assists us in accomplishing goals. We have also implemented a Positive Behavior Intervention Support System (PBIS). This is part of the comprehensive Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS). In addition to academic needs, building plans are developed to meet the physical, social, and emotional needs of students.

Description of the School

We stand firm in our educational commitment to provide children with the very best educational experience. Bushnell houses Kindergarten and 1st grade students. A special point of excellence for our learning environment includes a commitment toward continual strengthening of our partnership with families as we affirm the development of the whole child in a safe and secure environment. We are proud of our students and their achievements. The staff at Bushnell Elementary invites you to explore and participate in the educational opportunities we provide.

Core Curriculum

Lowell Area Schools use the Michigan Merit Curriculum as provided by the State at [MI Merit](#). Lowell Area Schools has implemented the Michigan Academic Standards which can be found at [MI Standards](#). Lowell will continue to strive toward high-quality learning for every student. Providing an avenue for success of the essential content and skills each child needs for postsecondary experiences in a globalized world will be the focus. Each Building Leadership Team works with its teachers to provide collaboration time centered on individual student data of the curriculum to be learned. Planning for future instruction is centered on each student's mastery of the essential content and skills and demonstrating behavior expectations as identified within our Positive Behavior Intervention Support System (PBIS).

Student Achievement Results

Lowell Area Schools uses the Measurement of Academic Progress (math, reading, and language usage) for students in 1st through 7th grade. MAP tests are unique in that they are computerized adaptive tests. The more questions students answer correctly, the more difficult the questions become. When students incorrectly answer a question, the test becomes easier. The test is adapted and responsive to the student's learning level. This is different from the State of Michigan's M-STEP tests, which were criterion based tests, with the same questions for each student in a particular grade. Information on M-STEP tests are aligned with the Common Core State Standards, implemented in Lowell. The MAP test is given to students in fall, winter, and spring. This assessment allows staff, parents, and students to see growth over a given time period. The MAP tests provide valuable data that directly affects instruction within classrooms. Comparison percentages are given to show how each individual student compares to other student's within their grade level. A 50% score means that a student scored above 50% of the students at the student's grade level who took this test nationally. Lowell students do very well on this test. In general, they score well above the national percentage average, and make larger than average gains from fall to spring. Lowell Area Schools is proud of the achievement that takes place in our District, and the MAP test is another source of data that proves this high level of achievement.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

2022-2023: 98% of parents attended Fall Conferences. 98% of parents attended Spring Conferences.

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Bushnell Elementary prides itself in being a model early childhood center. We strive to find ways to enhance collaboration among K-1 teachers throughout the year. Kindergarten teachers use the ESGI tool which houses baseline data for all kindergarten students with which teachers can build upon. This data gives teachers valuable information to assess their students' academic, social, emotional, and physical needs. MAP score data demonstrates that 1st grades score above norm average scores in reading and math. Last year our data indicated that 81% of first grade students scored at or above the grade level in math, while 76% scored at or above grade level in reading. We also utilize professional learning community teams regularly to discuss student progress. Students, staff and our Bushnell Bear community can be proud of the student focus that is evident through monitoring of student success. In addition to a strong literacy and learning focus, Bushnell continues to develop caring and considerate students. In a recent fidelity survey for PBIS, 100% of staff and students named the Bushnell values of respect, responsibility, and safety. We continually monitor our goals and strive for excellence each and every day.

Sincerely,



Erin Walters
Principal